Email from Brian Patrick Walsh, Pierce College Chapter President, AFT 1521, Professor of History at Pierce College and advocate for the removal of Old Trapper's Lodge

From: Walsh, Brian P <WALSHBP@PIERCECOLLEGE.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 8:47 AM
To: Walsh, Brian P <WALSHBP@PIERCECOLLEGE.EDU>
Cc: McKeever, Arthur J <MCKEEVAJ@PIERCECOLLEGE.EDU>; Tsuha, Shigueru <TSUHAS@PIERCECOLLEGE.EDU>; Bass Keer, Wendy <BASSKEW@PIERCECOLLEGE.EDU>; Accardo, Donna L <ACCARDDL@PIERCECOLLEGE.EDU>; Maduena, Jeanette <MADUENJ@PIERCECOLLEGE.EDU>; Lendor, Danielle L <LENDORDL@PIERCECOLLEGE.EDU>; McCarthy, Tara A <MCCARTTA2@PIERCECOLLEGE.EDU>
Subject: Resolution to Remove Old Trapper's Lodge statues from the grounds of Pierce College

To my colleagues.

On Tuesday August 18th, the Pierce College delegation to the Faculty Guild Executive Board presented a Resolution to Remove the Old Trapper's Lodge Statues from the grounds of Pierce College (Resolution attached). The Executive Board of the Faculty Guild, representing the elected officers and representatives of all nine campuses voted unanimously in its favor. We are grateful to our union family across the district in this show of support and solidarity.

Many of us have long been ashamed by this blight on our landscape. The Old Trapper's Lodge statues not only are ill-suited for these awakened times, but I cannot imagine any time where such shameful depictions of indigenous people were deemed appropriate. It is long past time we unburden this campus from housing this deplorable landmark.

We have had several discussions with President Montevirgen on this issue and we share similar sentiments. I cannot find many if any among the faculty, staff and administration that are proud of these objects. As this site is listed as a state landmark, we must wade into a thicket of bureaucracy to achieve our ultimate objective, which is their permanent removal from the grounds. We will persist.

We will return to campus one day, but we will never return to "normal." We will never go back to the way things were, nor should we want to. Let us reimagine the type of campus we wish to return to and create a new and

better environment for us and our students. This here is an opportunity to redefine what we do, how we do it and where we do it. We will accomplish all of this, together.

I have copied our executive board delegation in this message. Please reach out to any of us if you wish to learn more about our advocacy on your behalf. I wish you all the best as we prepare for the Fall semester.

In Solidarity,

Brian Patrick Walsh
Pierce College Chapter President
AFT 1521

https://theroundupnews.com/2020/07/08/column-racist-statues-still-on-campus/
https://theroundupnews.com/2015/10/14/2609857/
http://piercecollege.edu/offices/honorees/trapper.asp

Resolution to remove "Old Trapper's Lodge" statues from the grounds of Los Angeles Pierce College

Whereas, the Chumash, Alliklik, Kitanemuk, Serrano, Gabrielino Luiseno Cahuilla, Kumeyaay, Bear River, Mattale, Lassick, Nogatl, Wintun, Yana, Yahi, Maidu, Wintun, Sinkyone, Wailaki, Kato, Yuki, Pomo, Miwok, Wappo, Monache, Yokuts, Costanoan, Esselen, Salinan, Tubatulabal, Modoc, Achumawi, Atsugewi, Tolowa, Shasta, Karok, Yurok Hupa Whilikut, Chilula, Chimarike and Wiyot tribes lived in California prior to the conquest by Europeans, and

Whereas, the European conquest of the Americas lead to a genocide of the native peoples that resulted in a roughly 90% decline of their general population, and

Whereas Father Junipero Serra established the mission system in California during the 18th century, functioning as forced labor camps for the indigenous people, marginalizing their culture, erasing their religious traditions, inflicting violence, torture and epidemic diseases that killed nearly 60% of the Mission natives, Ultimately leading to "About 100,000 or nearly a third of the aboriginal population of California died as a direct consequence of the missions of California."[1] And

Whereas, the first United States Governor of California Peter Hardemann Burnett, declared in 1851 for the extermination of indigenous people in the state during his second state address, providing money and weapons to local militias so "That a war of extermination will continue to be waged between the races until the Indian race becomes extinct must be expected."[2] and

Whereas, Creation of Trapper's Lodge Folk-art was created by artist John Ehn (1897-1981) and installed at Pierce College during the 1980's, promoting racist depictions of indigenous people as violent rapists attacking white settlers, remaining on campus to this present day, and

Whereas, California Governor Gavin Newsom formally apologized "on behalf of the citizens of the state of California to all California Native Americans for the many instances of violence, maltreatment and neglect California inflicted on tribes" and created the Truth and Healing Council in Executive Order N-15-19,[3]

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[1] http://nahc.ca.gov/resources/california-indian-history/
[2] https://governors.library.ca.gov/addresses/s_01-Burnett2.html
[3] https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/6.18.19-Executive-Order.pdf

Be it Resolved, the Los Angeles College Faculty Guild demands the Board of Trustees, the Los Angeles Community College District and the administration of Los Angeles Pierce College act with focused urgency to remove the Trapper's Lodge folk-art statues from the campus grounds as soon as possible.

Approved Minutes of Executive Board Meeting August 18, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 2:08 p.m.

Approval of Agenda (Waddell)

Sign in sheets of Eboard meetings will be included in future Eboard minutes. Joanne will take point of personal privilege to move AFIC report up the agenda to introduce the AFIC chair Jessica Saint-Paul.

Member Education (Waddell): 19th Amendment was ratified August 18, 1920.

Mindy reviewed Eboard community guidelines.

Action Items

1. **M/S/P (Chen):** approve proposed minutes from July 21, 2020

2. **M/S/P (Labertew):** Approve the 2020-21 Budget for the Community Support and Engagement (CSE) Committee as listed on pp.10-11 of packet. Denice explained a set of funding guidelines that were used to assess groups previously approved for funding. Denice clarified that the budget and funding for groups have actually previously been approved, and that this motion is intended to be informational than for approval.

Brian asked about funding for housing, which Denice addressed later. Wooi Chin asked if the groups receive equal funding, to which Denice answered that it depends on group need and requested amount. Gabriel asked if there is process for checks and balances, and if there is a way to follow up on how the money was spent, to which Denice answered that CSE votes on funding approvals and meet monthly for discussion and follow up. Marty expressed that the groups seeking funding should come to Eboard for approval, and that CSE should set a limit on organizational request necessary for Eboard approval. Denice reminded everyone that Eboard has approved the current CSE structure and funding guidelines in June 2019.

Motions from COPE. See attached COPE report on p.13 for details on candidates.

3. **M/S/P (Monteiro):** Endorse Kipp Mueller (SD 21)

4. **M/S/P (Monteiro):** Endorse Mike Gipson (AD 64) (Monteiro)

5. **M/S/P (Monteiro):** Endorse Patricia Castellano (LAUSD BoE District 7)

6. **M/S/P (Monteiro):** to consider endorsement for Mark Ridley Thomas, as the item was left off agenda. 2/3 vote requirement was met.

7. **M/S/P (Monteiro):** Endorse Mark Ridley Thomas (LA City Council #10)

8. **M/S/P (Monteiro):** Contribute $2500 to Kipp Mueller (SD 21) (Monteiro)

9. **M/S/P (Monteiro):** Contribute $1500 to Mike Gipson (AD 64) (Monteiro)

10. **M/S/P (Monteiro):** Contribute $800 to Patricia Castellano (LAUSD BoE District 7)

John McDowell noted for new Eboard members that in the past, Eboard has approved a policy on the amount of COPE giving--$2500 for Senate District, $1500 for Assembly District, and $800 for school board and local races.

9. **M/S/P (Monteiro):** Contribute $800 to Mark Ridley Thomas (LA City Council #10)

10**. M/S/P (McKeever**): See. P.18 for full motion from SJC in support of Black lives in the LACCD and abolition of armed law enforcement in schools as amended.

James noted that as a former law enforcement officer, the presence of militarized police on campus gives only illusion of safety. James noted past incidents of LA Pierce College where the LA Sheriff Department called LAPD for actual enforcement, ignored calls, and behaved in hostile manners toward Black and Brown students and faculty. James clarified that this resolution shows that the Guild is serious in support of disarming LA Sheriff on campus.

Marty amended motion to add language "the LA College Faculty Guild calls on LACCD" + rest of the resolution. Motion passed:

- To demands a process to disarm and divest from the Los Angeles Sheriff Department's campus police and replace it with non-punitive forms of accountability, including restorative and transformative justice, trauma-informed crisis teams, and other community-led public health and safety programs.
- To pursues a redirection of resources from policing and focus on racial and gender justice teaching, research, anti-racism training for campus employees, and community initiatives, as well as increased material support to hire more Black mental health counselors, faculty (this includes resources for increased hiring and retention), staff, and student workers on campus; more specifically, some of those resources should be allocated to the creation of a Center for Black Student
- Success and to provide scholarships for Black students who balance outstanding academic records and commitments to addressing current social issues. A committee of faculty experts in Pan-African Studies and other departments, as well as Black students, staff, and workers will develop the plan for the redirection of both immediate and ongoing resources.
- To engender an end to contracts between LACCD and local, county, and state police, federal police departments, and security agencies, including but not limited to LAPD, the LA Sheriff's Department, the California Highway Patrol, the Department of Homeland Security, and ICE; as
- part of this demand, we want a public accounting of all existing contracts, memoranda of understanding, and other agreements with such agencies.
- To direct the Chancellor and Campus Presidents to ensure that henceforth the District will no longer employ law enforcement or armed security presence of any kind within

District schools but may utilize the Los Angeles Police Department in emergency situations requiring law enforcement; and

- To direct the Chancellor and Campus Presidents to reallocate funds previously used for sworn police officers toward student support positions such as school-based social workers, psychologists, restorative justice practitioners, or other mental or behavioral health professionals, as the budget supports, to meet the needs of students;
- To direct the Chancellor and Campus Presidents to launch, by no later than December 31, 2020 (end of the Sheriff contract), an inclusive, community-driven process – involving students, faculty, administrators, student support staff, community representatives and community organizations – for completing a revised District safety plan with strategies for enhancing student learning, safety, and wellbeing within the District.

Several comments and questions from Henry, Gabe, and Patricia were raised around "defund" language. Natalina invited all to come to the SJC to learn details. Bill noted that he has affiliation with SJC so he will recuse himself from this vote, although he supports this motion and reallocate funds to mental health, transport, escort, etc. James notes that he appreciates Bill's wish to recuse his vote, and that in support of social justice and integrity, Bill as Eboard member should vote. Gabe voices his support for BLM but his unwillingness to take away protections on campus. Marty gave history of LACCD used to have own campus police and there were worries that LA Sheriff would not be part of campus community—which sounds like it has happened. Leon recounted that he was President of Guild in 1992-93 when Faculty, Classified, and campus police were all part of the Guild and it worked much better when campus police were also union members. Natalina noted that the LACCD contract with Sheriff's is $24 million and that much of it could be allocated to other services. James clarified that this motion is to defund the LA Sheriff and reallocate for other forms of services, including protection. Denice commented that as part of the SJC and subcommittee that drafted the resolution, the authors were intentional not to abandon public safety; rather this creates opportunity for change. Darrell commented that the LA Sheriff's contract expires in December and has not been renewed. James mentions that this is exactly why it's an opportune time to vote on this resolution to let the LACCD BOT know on the Guild's position.

11. **M/S/P (Walsh):** Remove "Old Trapper's Lodge" statues from the grounds of Los Angeles Pierce College. Brian and James noted racist depictions against Native Americans as represented statues on p.21 and challenges in removing the statues.

<u>Officer Reports</u>

Joanne reminds everyone that max time allotted for report would be 5 minutes.

Treasurer (Hendricks): Sharon noted that 2019-2020 fiscal year was closed out. See p.23-25 listed budget for closed out numbers.

Secretary (Chen): No report.

Executive VP/JLMBC (Elarton-Selig): See p.26-29 of packet for JLMBC info for open enrollment. Bill explained details about options of open enrollment.

Grace commented that she would like to see that we as a union work on adjunct healthcare issues. Bill clarified that the issue has not gone away, but just that demands didn't get through with management during negotiations. Henry commented that we should consider drawing money from our reserves to assist with faculty who might lose insurance due to loss of assignment. James mentions that the SJC pushing for universal healthcare and basic income can address these issues. Denice added personal example to highlight that adjunct healthcare is an equity issue.

President (Waddell): See p.30-33. Joanne emphasized importance for voting. Joanne drew attention to MOUs.

Committee and Professional Staff Reports

AFIC report was moved up on the agenda as noted earlier.

AFIC (Saint-Paul): Jessica Saint Paul has been appointed as Co-Chair of AFIC. Jessica drew attention to AFIC as means to work on adjunct issues. At this point, there is only one chair for AFIC.

A. Communications (Kaye): See p. 34 for report. Deborah noted that mailing for contract ratification will be coming. Deborah also asked everyone to send along interesting stories on Guild members. Deborah noted that we asked Scott Svonkin to remove the Guild from his site. Finally, Deborah and Tina are working on updating the Guild website.

Sarah asked if there has been consideration of using alternative means other than USPS for ratification vote. Deboarh and Joanne addressed that we did consider, and at this point we have more correct home addresses than non-work email addresses for members, so we are opting to use mailing for ratification.

B. Community Support and Engagement (Labertew): See written report on p.45. Denice addressed Brian's question earlier on funding organizations addressing housing insecurity.

C. COPE (Monteiro): See COPE report p.14. Natalina reports that the Guild has worked hard to stop Scott Svonkin from receiving endorsement from other unions.

At this point Natalina invited Chase to speak, and Chase explained how organizing and COPE will be working together, as politics and BOT races affect our working conditions and student learning conditions. Jonathon comments that pressures at BOT does yield results—as shown in negotiations when we flex our power. Jonathon urges Eboard members to take the BOT election seriously and ask all to sign up for phone banking shifts. Julio added that we can think that our next contract campaign begins with this BOT election. Eboard members are urged to sign up for phone banking at https://bit.ly/1521phonebanks.

D. DHLI (Chen & Galvez): No report

E. EDD (Amey): No report.

F. Foundation (Knorr): No report.

G. Gov't Relations (McDowell): No report.

H. Grievance (Eckersley): See p.35 for report.

I. JLMBC (Elarton): See EVP/JLMBC report earlier.

J. Negotiations (Elarton-Selig and Chen): Come to the ratification townhall meetings. https://linktr.ee/facultyguildbargaining

K. Organizing (Golding): See pp. 37-40 for report. The Organizing department has focused on completing contract campaign, assisting in political campaign, and empowering and growing membership. In discussing organizing members to become engaged in politics, Chase noted that John, Marty, Joanne, and various leaders over time of Guild leadership emphasizes the importance of political action and electing BOT which impacts faculty work conditions.

L. Retirement (Hendricks): No report.

M. Social Justice Committee (McKeever): See pp.43-45 for report. James noted that the SJC has now developed bylaws.

N. Student Interns (Monteiro): A new intern coordinator Eduardo has been hired. Natalina is asking all for help in recruiting interns.

O. WEC/Bond (TBA): No report.

P. AFIC (Saint-Paul): See report earlier (pp.46-47).

Q. Budget (McDowell): see letter attached to Eboard packet. Sandra asked how this will affect colleges that are still planning 8-10% cut. John reiterated that there is enough money to get through this year and LACCD shouldn't be cutting classes for this year. Marty asked about Prop 15.

Announcements

Ratification Town Hall
• Wednesday August 19—5 pm (see flyer and AFT 1521 website)
• Friday August 21—2 pm (see flyer and AFT 1521 website)

Thursday August 27—Opening Day on all campuses—contact your Chapter President for details

BoT Candidate Forums (tentative schedule):
Thursday September 3—1:30 pm

Thursday September 10—1:30 pm
Thursday September 17—11:30 am
Monday September 21—5 pm
Tuesday September 22—noon
Tuesday September 29—9:30 am

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mindy Chen, Recording Secretary